GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1640
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2015
Indians on Hunger Strike in US Jail
Ashok Kumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Indians went on a hunger strike in a Florida jail in United States (US);

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up their matter with the US Government; and

(d) if so, the response of US Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (d) As per information received from the Consulate General of India, Atlanta, the Consulate was informed by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), US Department of Homeland Security, that 24 Indian detainees were on hunger strike at the Krome Detention Center in Florida. The Consulate officials were informed that the Indian detainees were on a hunger strike, as they were protesting against their possible deportation by US authorities.

The Consulate followed up the matter by requesting a visit to the Krome Detention Center to meet the concerned detainees and ascertain their welfare. The ICE authorities facilitated a visit to the Center on 19 August 2015. However, by the time of the visit, the 24 detainees had already been released from the Detention Center, as the Judge hearing their asylum case had released all of them on bond. Following the judgement which went in their favour, the 24 detainees had ended their hunger strike.